



Atty. Dkt. No. 076326-0275

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Frank SAUER  
Title: DECORATIVE ELEMENT FOR COVER  
CAPS OF AIRBAG MODULES  
Appl. No.: 10/791,711  
Filing Date: 3/4/2004  
Examiner: Faye Fleming  
Art Unit: 3616  
Confirmation Number: 3391

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

A copy of each non-U.S. patent document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(d), before payment of the issue fee.

**RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

All of the documents listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 were cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding Japanese application. A copy of the Japanese Office Action is attached setting forth the portion of each document considered relevant by the examiner. An English-language counterpart of the foreign-language documents has been provided.

Applicant respectfully requests that each listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

**STATEMENT**

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to filing of this Statement.

**FEE**

A credit card payment form in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed in accordance with 37 CFR §1.17(p) to cover the fee associated with an information disclosure statement under 37 CFR §1.97(d) in the amount of \$180.00.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by the credit card payment form being unsigned, providing incorrect information resulting in a rejected credit card transaction, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

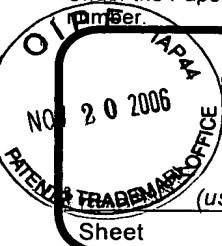
Date 11/17/2006

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP  
Customer Number: 22428  
Telephone: (202) 672-5582  
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

By 

Howard N. Shipley  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 39,370

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.



Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/791,711
Filing Date	03/04/2004
First Named Inventor	Frank SAUER
Art Unit	3616
Examiner Name	Faye Fleming
Attorney Docket Number	076326-0275

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	C1	2001/0005541 A1	06/28/2001	Iida et al.	
	C2	5,961,143	10/05/1999	Hlywka et al.	= JP 2002-514544

**UNPUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Application Document	Filing Date of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Serial Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	C3	JP 10-29488 A	02/03/1998	Nippon Plast Co., Ltd.		Abs
	C4	JP 11-321516 A	11/24/1999	Tokai Rika Co., Ltd.		Abs
	C5	JP 2000-71926 A	03/07/2000	Toyoda Gosei Co., Ltd.		Abs
	C6	JP 2000-118344 A	04/25/2000	Denso Corp.		Abs
	C7	JP 2001-162997 A	06/19/2001	Toyoda Gosei Co., Ltd.	= US 2001/0005541	Abs
	C8	JP 2002-514544	05/21/2002		= US 5,961,143	

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>6</sup>

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.